

**U. S. Department of Homeland Security  
U. S. Coast Guard  
Marine Safety Office Charleston  
Marine Safety Information Bulletin**

**MSIB 32-04**

**August 2, 2004**

**New Ballast Water Reporting Regulations**

In a final rule published in the Federal Register on June 14, 2004, the Coast Guard, under the authority of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act and the National Invasive Species Act, established penalty provisions for vessels equipped with ballast water tanks who are bound for ports or places within the United States that fail to submit a ballast water management reporting form. Penalty provisions are also established for vessels bound for the Great Lakes or portions of the Hudson River that violate the mandatory ballast water management requirements and these regulations widen the reporting and recordkeeping requirements of vessels subject to the regulations.

Attached below is Navigation and Inspection Circular No. 07-04 including Enclosure (1), which explains the new requirements of 33 CFR 151, Subpart D, as amended by the final rule, in detail. Some specific aspects described in this enclosure that will be required here in the Port of Charleston include, but are not limited to, applicability, 24 hour reporting requirements, correct reporting formats, preferred methods of reporting and the retention of signed records onboard for two years.

This final rule will take effect on August 13, 2004. Please advise all concerned parties of these requirements as persons violating these rules may be liable for a civil penalty up to \$27,500 with each continuing day in violation constituting a separate violation. In addition, a person who knowingly violates regulations of this subpart may be guilty of a class "C" felony.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact my representative, Petty Officer Charles Taylor, at (843) 720-3270.

/S/

J. E. CAMERON  
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port  
Charleston, South Carolina